system capable of generating a gas upon being wetted includes an acid and a base, the acid and the base can be separately encapsulated in a soluble encapsulation material to keep the components separated until wetted. Alternatively, the acid and base components can be encapsulated together if reactivity between the acid and the base in the absence of a liquid is not a concern. The surfactant can be separately encapsulated, or can be encapsulated with the acid and/or the base. Additionally, encapsulation can be used with gas-impregnated effervescent agents alone or in combination with the surfactant.

[0105] The shell material used for encapsulation can be suitably constructed of a material such that it will release the encapsulated material (i.e., the acid, base, effervescent agent and/or surfactant) upon contact with urine or other body exudates. The urine or other body exudates can cause the shell material to solubilize, disperse, swell, or disintegrate, or the shell material can be permeable such that it disintegrates or discharges the encapsulated material upon contact with urine or other body exudates. Suitable shell materials include cellulose-based polymeric materials (e.g., ethyl cellulose), carbohydrate-based materials (e.g., starches and sugars) and materials derived therefrom (e.g., dextrins and cyclodextrins) as well as other materials compatible with human tissues.

[0106] The shell thickness can vary depending upon the material encapsulated, and is generally manufactured to allow the encapsulated component to be covered by a thin layer of encapsulation material, which can be a monolayer or thicker laminate, or can be a composite layer. The layer should be thick enough to resist cracking or breaking of the shell during handling or shipping of the product or during wear that would result in breakage of the encapsulating material. The material should also be constructed such that humidity from atmospheric conditions during storage, shipment, or wear will not cause a breakdown of the microencapsulation layer.

[0107] These and other modifications and variations to the present disclosure can be practiced by those of ordinary skill in the art, without departing from the spirit and scope of the present disclosure, which is more particularly set forth in the appended claims. In addition, it should be understood that aspects of the various aspects can be interchanged both in whole or in part. Furthermore, those of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that the foregoing description is by way of example only, and is not intended to limit the disclosure so further described in such appended claims.

What is claimed:

1. A pant-like absorbent article, comprising:

an absorbent chassis defining a waist opening and first and second leg openings, the absorbent chassis including an absorbent assembly;

the absorbent chassis having a longitudinal length and the waist opening having an unstretched circumference, such that the longitudinal length is proportional to the unstretched circumference of the waist opening by a ratio less than 0.82; and

a wetness indicator for alerting a wearer to a release of liquid body exudates, the wetness indicator including a physical sensation agent responsive to liquid body exudates received by the absorbent article to facilitate a physical sensation against the wearer's skin for alerting the wearer to the wearer's release of liquid body exudates.

2. The absorbent article of claim **1**, wherein the physical sensation is a temperature change.

3. The absorbent article of claim **1**, wherein the physical sensation is fizzing.

4. The absorbent article of claim **1**, wherein the wetness indicator is in overlaid relationship with the absorbent assembly.

5. The absorbent article of claim **1**, further comprising a liner adapted for generally contiguous relationship with the wearer's skin during wearing of the absorbent article, and an outer cover, the wetness indicator being disposed between the liner and the outer cover.

6. The absorbent article of claim **1**, wherein the absorbent article is configured for wear about a wearer's waist, the absorbent article having a front region, a back region and a crotch region interconnecting the front and back regions and extending generally longitudinally therebetween, the wetness indicator being longitudinally positioned generally within the crotch region of the absorbent article.

7. The absorbent article of claim **1**, the wetness indicator further comprising a temperature element, wherein the physical sensation agent is a temperature change agent in the form of particles disposed on or within the temperature element of the wetness indicator.

8. The absorbent article of claim **7**, wherein the temperature change agent comprises an endothermic material.

9. The absorbent article of claim **1**, wherein the longitudinal length is proportional to the unstretched circumference of the waist opening by a ratio less than 0.80.

10. The absorbent article of claim **1**, wherein the longitudinal length is proportional to the unstretched circumference of the waist opening by a ratio less than 0.78.

11. The absorbent article of claim **1**, wherein the wetness indicator further includes a liquid absorbent body therein, the liquid absorbent body adapted to absorb liquid body exudates in the presence thereof so that the wetness indicator increases in thickness as liquid body exudates are absorbed, the wetness indicator having a first thickness when dry and a second thickness greater than the first thickness upon absorption of liquid body exudates.

12. The absorbent article of claim **11**, wherein the second thickness is at least about three times greater than the first thickness.

13. The absorbent article of claim **11**, wherein the second thickness is between about three and about twenty times greater than the first thickness.

14. The absorbent article of claim **11**, wherein the second thickness is between about five and about fifteen times greater than the first thickness.

15. The absorbent article of claim **1**, wherein the unstretched circumference of the waist opening is between about 450 and about 750 millimeters.

16. The absorbent article of claim **1**, wherein the unstretched circumference of the waist opening is between about 500 and about 700 millimeters.

17. An article for personal wear, the article being capable of alerting a wearer to the wearer's release of liquid body exudates, the article comprising:

an outer cover, an absorbent assembly, a waist opening, and first and second leg openings, the article having a longitudinal length and the waist opening having an unstretched circumference;

a liner adapted for contiguous relationship with the wearer's skin due to the longitudinal length being propor-